

# Heber Sets Up House for SLOC

BY TISH DAHMEN

Wave Editor

More than 20,000 spectators are expected to come to Heber City in February 2002 to view the Olympic events at the Soldier Hollow venue. Another 2000 will be at Soldier Hollow as officials, volunteers, press corp, and athletes.

Faced such enormous numbers, a question that comes to mind is: Where will everybody sleep?

Certainly, Heber City and Salt Lake Olympic Organizing

Committee (SLOC) officials have examined this question in depth. SLOC Housing Coordinator

Roger Black has met often with Alan Fawcett, Heber City planner, under the direction of the city council, to discuss housing strategies for Heber.

Outside of SLOC's long arm, local hotels are booked and residents homes are in demand for groups and organizations coming to the Olympics that won't have housing furnished through SLOC.

Wasatch County Olympic Coordinator Bob Mathis continues to call for Heber homeowners to offer a room and a bed to volunteers coming from across the world to help out with the 2002 Olympic Games and the 2001 World Cup events.

SLOC, Heber City, Wasatch County and private interests anticipate that a portion of the spectators and Olympic associated personnel that come to view the

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Soldier Hollow events, won't want to travel back and forth from lodgings in Salt Lake City, Provo and Orem. The ability of Wasatch County to provide beds to this large number is questionable.

According to Fran Anderson, executive director of the Heber Valley Chamber of Commerce, the county can accomodate 1525 guests. This number is based on a "pillow" count of all area lodgings.

To make the scenario more interesting, the number of specta-

tors expected at Soldier Hollow far exceeds the entire population of the county.

Fawcett said SLOC wants Heber to house 600 individuals, made up of Olympic security personnel, athletes, their families and officials.

To answer this demand, Fawcett said the

city and SLOC are reviewing plans to move mobile homes and modular housing units into Heber to house these Olympic associates. When the games are over, the housing will be moved out.

"We made that pretty clear in our meetings," Fawcett said. "We want it all dissembled afterwards and the Olympic people agree. We don't want to have substandard housing in Heber."

Cowboy Village, Daniel's Gate, and the Wasatch County Fairgrounds are locations under review for temporary housing.

Mobile homes made by

*"We don't want to have substandard housing in Heber."*

Alan Fawcett  
Heber City Planner

# OPINION

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The Wave wants to direct attention to a letter to the editor submitted by the Wasatch Mountain School boys varsity basketball team. They are apologizing for their pre-season losses.

What is wrong with this culture? This young team feels they have to beg forbearance from the community in an effort to avoid the backlash of negativity associated from those who should be their strongest supporters.

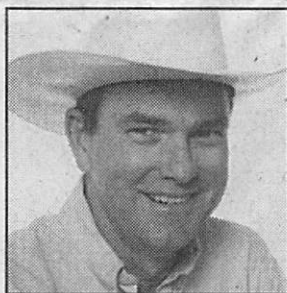
Why berate a 17 year-old team for failing to fulfill your dreams of glory?

Under these circumstances, the Wave feels that this community is undermining the

## It's the Pitts Well

BY LEE

Com



People  
wear  
hats  
white shirts  
November  
cozy up  
fire in J

take down the Christmas tree in the snow. We are condemned for being "out of season." That's ridiculous. Seasons should not be decided by an arbitrary date on a calendar. Seasons are a matter of mind and seldom coincide with the climate. They are never equally divided in quarters like a dollar or a football game. There could be more or less than four seasons in a year. For example, most men there are just three seasons: football, basketball and baseball. A tax accountant, a teacher or a single kid there are just two seasons: school and not so busy.

My least favorite season is winter. It leaves me cold. You know winter has arrived when your truck won't start, your car is running and your nose won't stop running. As far as I'm concerned, winter is

# Olympic Housing

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Fleetwood may be moved into the mobile home park at Cowboy Village located at about 200 South and 500 West.

The nearby fairgrounds may house trailers and motor homes.

"With SLOC's help, we're attempting to do some infrastructure improvements at the fairgrounds," said Fawcett.

At Daniel's Gate, a private development in its first phase, negotiations are underway with SLOC to install dormitory units or manufactured homes on 150 lots. The dormitory units have a "clustered" appearance where a certain number of bedroom units share a kitchen.

According to Griff Johnson, project manager of land development for C&A Construction out of Provo, SLOC's temporary housing development may occupy between 10 and 20 acres of the Daniel's Gate. C&A will install sewer, water and utility connections for the SLOC housing. If Heber City doesn't approve C&A Construction's final plans, the project dies.

"There has been some concern about the sewer," Fawcett said. He noted that the sewer runs uphill and the water pressure is not sufficient to service the area without pumping. "That's our big problem. We're trying to figure it out and we're pretty optimistic that we can," Fawcett said.

Johnson said approximately \$450,000 has been allocated by Wasatch County to provide sewer services to the development.

Daniel's Gate is located at approximately 300 East and Airport Road.

Mathis said Midway's Homestead will house athletes and their families. Jordanelle's Deer Mountain Condominiums will house media personnel.

Fawcett said Ray Holt has promised an entire complex at Wingpoint Apartments to SLOC for housing Olympic associates.

Matt Moeykens, general manager of Heber's Holiday Inn Express, said two groups are currently negotiating hiring the

hotel's 75 rooms for the month of February 2002 and then some. He added that the Holiday Inn has had these two interested parties trying to reserve the hotel for more than a year.

Moeykens said most hotels don't book a year in advance but the Olympics are considered a "special circumstance." He also noted that the inn will not be charging special markup prices for Olympic guests.

The Holiday Inn is typical of most Valley hotels. According to Anderson at the Heber Valley Chamber of Commerce, most Heber lodgings are pre-booked for the Olympics.

He also said that the hotels/motels that contracted with SLOC were allowed an "annual incremental price increase" for the Olympics. He said the prices are controlled by SLOC.

Lodging prices will be more but there won't be any price gouging," he concluded.

"You can rent out your house for 21 one days and make enough to pay your mortgage for one year," says DeWayne Hasty, inventory manager at Park City's ResCenter.

Hasty is one of several agencies recruiting homeowners to rent out homes, apartments and rooms to Olympic bound travelers.

Hasty said a homeowner can make anywhere from \$400 to \$10,000 per night for a home close to one of the Olympic venues.

Coldwell Bankers is the official Olympic private rental agency. Their web site is connected to SLOCs.

In the Heber Valley, Carolyn Hogwood's agency, Midway Design Properties, is also brokering Olympic rentals.

All three agencies require an application fee. All three charge a commission from 25 percent to 40 percent. All three require a before and after inspection. And, all three are booking as fast as they can list.

The agencies differ in the level of housekeeping and property management services offered.

Hasty advised homeowners to list now, as the corporate business will not last long.

l...

day.

We are not living in the horse and buggy age.

Speed kills!

Even a slow speed car crash, will send a child under the age of five through the windshield like a torpedo. This is due to the large size proportion of their head compared to the rest of their body.

Seat belts save lives!

The radio and television airways are filled with ads which

teach the importance of seat belt use. It's hard to believe these parents have never seen these ads.

These parents lock their cars, lock their house, secure funds in banks, yet a precious, irreplaceable innocent child is allowed to roam free in a dangerous moving vehicle.

I am definitely not perfect, but I have teenagers that don't know what it feels like and are not comfortable without a seat belt.

When they were babies and they were crying in the car, we simply pulled over in a safe place, did whatever was needed, then back in the car seat.

## No Uncertain Terms

# A New Stamp Tax

BY PAUL JACOBS

Guest Commentary

In the 1760s a stamp tax imposed by a distant government helped form rebellion in the New World.

Now, at the frontier of another New World, the Internet, it seems we're facing yet another obnoxiously ubiquitous stamp tax. And perhaps another rebellion, too.

Or are we?

It all has to do with that snazzy new means of communicating, electronic mail more commonly called e-mail.

E-mail is a great way to keep in touch. You type your letter on your computer, click SEND...and a few minutes later somebody halfway around the world is nodding over your wise and witty words. Everybody is getting into the act these days, rejoicing in the ease and speed of the communication. And in the cheapness of it, too: it's virtually free.

Rumor has it that the federal government wants to charge you a tax of five cents for every electronic missive you send. Urgent e-mail alerts warn that legislation has been introduced in the Congress that will instruct the post office to collect the new tax.

The congressional vote could be imminent. Now is the time for all

good people (especially e-mail junkies) to come to the aid of their country, and their wizbang electronic New World, too.

It's shocking. Unbelievable. We knew this free e-mail was too good to be true! We knew that the other shoe had to drop eventually! But ... this? Say it ain't so, Joe!

Well ... it ain't so. Relax everyone. It's a hoax that's been floating around the alleys and byways of the Internet for more than a year. There are several versions of it, and in fact it made the rounds in Canada more than a year ago before drifting down to the United States.

The hoax e-mail says that federal bill 602P would empower the post office to charge five cents tax on every e-mail you send. But there is no such bill pending. Never was and, we can all hope, never will be.

As always, don't believe everything you read. Yet, isn't it interesting that this particular hoax was so easy to believe? In fact, a lot of people who aren't normally taken in by Internet hoaxes sure fell for this one. Smart people. Politically savvy people. People normally unfazed by even a punch-card ballot.

For instance, the New York State candidates for U.S. Senate were apparently taken in by it. "Based on your description, I wouldn't